Sunset Lake Community Association has a new name, now known as Neacoxie Lake Association. P. O. Box 844 Warrenton, Or. 97146

Neacoxie Lake Association is dying a slow death; unless we take action now we will be looking out over marshland in a few years. Property owners we need your support. Please join us at out next meeting on October 6th, 2007 at S/P meetinghouse, time 10am -12pm . Meetings will be held on 1st Saturday of month.

Pacific Grange Hall

Our guest speaker will be Mr. Robert Emanuel, OSU Extension Agent.

Mr. Emanuel will then discuss his evaluation results of our current lake conditions with his plan to assist our residences too resolve our dying Neacoxie Lake.

For more information please call, Robin Rhodes [redacted].

James Damon

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From : Arthur Limbird [redacted]
Sent : Sunday, August 26, 2007 10:24 PM
To : [redacted]
Subject : Neacoxie Lake

NOTES for you to use if needed. RK !

Hi Robin,

I got your phone message when we returned tonight from Portland. I will send you the item in a different way -- attached below.

Art

Neacoxie Lake [aka Sunset Lake] is dying a slow death; unless we take action now we will be looking out over marshland in a few years. The lake is being choked with an overgrowth of aquatic plants. Some of these plants grow naturally in and around lakes in Oregon. However, the majority of the plants are more aggressive 'invaders' which take over quickly if given a chance. The aggressive aquatic plants are the ones we need to address.

The reasons for the aggressive growth of aquatic plants come both from the existing lake conditions and from the surrounding lands. In the lake, organic debris and silts settle on the bottom. These materials are nearly perfect for establishing the roots or tubers of the various aquatic plants and for providing the plants with a continuous supply of the nutrients they need for thriving. Most of the organic debris comes from the water plants as parts of them die each year. This is like the litter of leaves, twigs, and needles that fall in a forest.

The surrounding lands also contribute in varying amounts and ways to the nutrients in the lake on which the aquatic plants feed. The more fertilizer that is used on lawns, shrubs, and gardens in yards around the lake, the greater the chance this fertilizer can runoff into the water. Fertilizers usually are composed of varying amounts of nitrogen, phosphorus, and potassium in compound form. The portions are expressed as percentages; for example a 5-15-10 fertilizer is 5% nitrogen, 15% phosphorus, and 10% potassium with the rest being the 'carrier' for these ingredients. Fertilizers provide nutrients to garden plants and lawns which the soil may be lacking and thus give the plants better growth. Phosphorus in particular encourages vegetative growth. Water from rains and from sprinkling dissolves the fertilizer ingredients and can wash these into the lake, adding to the nutrient 'load' in the lake bottom. Thus, we fertilize and provide better growth to the aggressive aquatic plants we are trying to reduce.

Erosion of soils from surrounding lands also contributes to the silts on the lake bottom. Wherever lands are disturbed by building or road construction, by cultivating fields and gardens, or other purposes there is a good chance for soil to wash into the lake when there is rainfall. The soil clouds the water and also settles to the bottom where it adds to the materials rich in nutrients for the aggressive aquatic plants.

Septic systems also can contribute to the nutrient 'load' in the lake. Septic tanks are designed to collect solids and allow fluids to reach a level where they flow into pipes of a drain field. From the drain field the fluids, which are like liquid fertilizers, seep into the surrounding soil and are dispersed. This is why the grass or other plants always grow better over the septic drain field. The problem near the lake comes when either the fluids in the soil continue to move into the lake or when the fluids overflow the septic tank or drain field and wash across the surface into the lake. When these fluids reach the lake they fertilize the aggressive aquatic plants.

GARY HANSON Aquic ~~Weed Harvest~~ vegetation management Inc. ~~The Neacoxie Lake Association~~ continues to cut and harvest aquatic plants in the lake. The Association also is working with other associations and with various government agencies for the restoration of all the lakes of the Clatsop Plain area and to secure funding support for these efforts. In addition, Robert Emanuel & members of the Association will be traveling by kayak and canoe around the entire lake to map the landscapes and land uses of the shoreland areas. The purpose of the mapping is to determine where there may be land-based contributors to the nutrient and sediment increases in the water [ie. where we are fertilizing the aggressive aquatic plants].

NOTES →

Anyone who lives on Neacoxie Lake, who has legal access to the lake, or even who uses the lake can and should contribute to the effort. We all can help change the status of Neacoxie Lake from a 'slowly dying' to a 'thriving healthy' lake for boating, swimming, fishing, and other water-based activities. Cutting and harvesting water plants alone will not prevent the 'dying' of the lake. We need to:

- Regulate closely the amounts of fertilizer we use and not use any fertilizer within 20 feet of the lake;
- Protect land surfaces from erosion and, if necessary, build barriers so sediments do not run into the lake;
- Plant shrubs and trees near the lake to protect the banks from eroding;
- Remove blackberry plants from near the lake edge where blackberries inhibit other plants from growing and allow banks to collapse into the water;
- Check and maintain septic systems to prevent fluids from entering the lake;
- Help to "weed" the lake now and keep the aggressive aquatic plants from increasing.

With all these factors that encourage aggressive aquatic plants reduced or gone, the water will become fresher, fish will be able to thrive, and we will all be able to enjoy Neacoxie Lake for many years to come.

Thank you, RR

Boardwalk for $500? In 2007? Ha! Play Monopoly Here and Now (it's updated for today's economy) at Yahoo! Games.